

STATE OF VERMONT  
PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD

Docket No. 7373

Joint Petition of Vermont Electric Power Company, Inc., )  
Vermont Transco, LLC, and Central Vermont Public )  
Service Corporation for a certificate of public good, )  
pursuant to 30 V.S.A. Section 248, authorizing the )  
construction of the Southern Loop Transmission )  
Upgrade Project )

Entered: 2/11/2009

**CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC GOOD ISSUED**  
**PURSUANT TO 30 V.S.A § 248**

IT IS HEREBY CERTIFIED that the Public Service Board of the State of Vermont ("Board") this day found and adjudged that the construction of the proposed Southern Loop Transmission Upgrade Project (the "Project") will promote the general good of the State of Vermont, and a Certificate of Public Good is hereby issued to Vermont Electric Power Company, Inc., and Vermont Transco, LLC (collectively "VELCO"), and Central Vermont Public Service Corporation ("CVPS," and together with VELCO, "Petitioners"), subject to the following conditions:

1. Prior to proceeding with construction, Petitioners shall file, for the Board's approval, final construction plans for the proposed upgrades, which Project plans shall conform substantially to the Project plans approved in the Board Order issued today in this Docket (the "Order"). Petitioners shall note any changes in the final plans from the plans approved by the Order and any affected party shall have two weeks to comment on any such changes from the date the plans are filed. The Petitioners may commence construction only after receiving Board approval for such plans.

2. Construction, operation and maintenance of the proposed Project shall be in accordance with the findings and requirements set forth in the Order.

3. Prior to proceeding with construction, the Petitioners shall obtain all necessary permits and approvals. Construction, operation, and maintenance of the proposed Project shall be in accordance with such permits and approvals, and with all other applicable regulations, including those of the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

4. The Project shall comply with the practices and standards outlined in VELCO's Stream Crossing Plan, Transmission Vegetation Management Plan, Environmental Guidance Manual and a project-specific Erosion Prevention and Sediment Control ("EPSC") plan.

5. The Petitioners shall file with the Board and provide parties to this docket with a document summarizing the results of the post-ARA field work, and providing any recommendations for mitigation, or confirming that any newly-identified historic sites can be avoided. Such filing may take the form of a copy of the End of Field Letter being delivered to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers pursuant to 36 C.F.R. § 800.1 et seq., to the extent such End of Field Letter suffices to meet this requirement. After the filing of such document, the Board, on its own initiative or upon the motion of a party, may require additional proceedings to ensure compliance with the above condition of this Order.

6. The Petitioners shall comply with all conditions and requirements set forth in the following agreements:

(a) Memorandum of Understanding dated September 2, 2008, among the Petitioners and the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources with associated attachments; and

(b) Memorandum of Understanding dated October 13, 2008, among the Petitioners and the Vermont Department of Public Service (the "Department"), as supplemented by the Memorandum from Michael Buscher to David Raphael dated October 23, 2008 (revised 10/28/08).

7. Upon the completion of the Department's post-construction review of the effectiveness of any proposed or modified landscape planting at the Vernon Substation and the seven locations identified in numbered paragraph 10 of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Petitioners and the Department (Exh. Stipulation-5), the Petitioners shall make a filing with the Board for a determination as to the reasonable availability and relative efficacy of the landscaping measures in mitigating the visual impact of the Project at these locations.

8. The Board retains jurisdiction to review aesthetic mitigation measures post-construction and to require additional mitigation measures as the Board determines to be appropriate.

9. At all Project substations, new power transformers shall comply with sound emissions at least 10 dBA below National Electrical Manufacturer's Association TR-1 standards. Low-corona busbars and other hardware on the 345 kV yards shall be used to minimize corona noise. Petitioners shall conduct pre- and post-construction noise monitoring at all Project substations to confirm that the transformers are operating according to their specifications and file the results with the Board and affected parties. The Board shall retain jurisdiction to decide any issues associated with post-construction noise at the Project substations.

10. For the Project transmission lines, the Petitioners shall employ low-corona type insulators and similar equipment, and shall avoid the use of equipment that leads to corona noise such as angular metals.

11. Petitioners shall identify areas of high EMF levels close to existing residences and propose low-cost measures likely to mitigate EMF exposure at these locations. Petitioners shall file a report addressing EMF mitigation with the Board and parties within 90 days of the issuance of a certificate of public good in this Docket. The Board shall retain jurisdiction to require further changes in the design of the involved portion or portions of the Project, if necessary.

12. The Petitioners shall file quarterly statements of their latest cost estimates, as well as prompt notification if estimated overall Project costs increase by more than five percent compared to the most recent filed cost estimate.

13. Within sixty days, VELCO shall file a letter clarifying whether it is a partner in EPA's SF6 Emission Reduction Partnership for Electric Power Systems.

14. This Certificate of Public Good shall not be transferred without prior approval of the Board.

Dated at Montpelier, Vermont, this 11th day of February, 2009.

	s/ James Volz	)	PUBLIC SERVICE  BOARD  OF VERMONT
		)	
		)	
	s/ David C. Coen	)	
		)	
		)	
	s/ John D. Burke	)	

OFFICE OF THE CLERK

FILED: February 11, 2009

ATTEST: s/ Susan M. Hudson  
Clerk of the Board

*NOTICE TO READERS: This decision is subject to revision of technical errors. Readers are requested to notify the Clerk of the Board (by e-mail, telephone, or in writing) of any apparent errors, in order that any necessary corrections may be made. (E-mail address: psb.clerk@state.vt.us)*